

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BERLIN 05204 062056Z

73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 NIC-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 IO-10 /074 W

----- 058008

R 061821Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 370

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION BERLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 5204

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, GW, GE

SUBJECT: EAST GERMAN REPORTS POINT TO CONTINUED HARD LINE ON GDR
CITIZENSHIP

SUMMARY: RECENT NEUES DEUTSCHLAND CRITICISM OF FRG
CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S WORDS ON THE GDR AND AN ARTICLE
BY FORMER GDR FOREIGN MINISTER WINZER POINT TO A
CONTINUED HARD LINE ON GDR NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP.

END SUMMARY.

1. THE WIDELY REPORTED CRITICISM BY NEUES DEUTSCHLAND
CORRESPONDENT IN BONN, DIETER WOLF, ON THE INNER-GERMAN
PORTION OF CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S STATE OF THE NATION
MESSAGE LAST WEEK, HAS NOT BEEN REPEATED OR
ELABORATED UPON IN EAST BERLIN NEWSPAPERS OVER THE
PAST FEW DAYS. IT IS APPARENTLY FELT HERE THAT
ONCE A REJOINDER TO SCHMIDT'S ADDRESS HAD BEEN MADE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BERLIN 05204 062056Z

(EVEN THOUGH IT WAS NOT OFFICIAL). IT WAS NOT EFFICACIOUS TO

CONTINUE THE ARGUMENT. DIRECT AND INDIRECT
CRITICISM OF BONN'S CLAIM TO REPRESENT ALL GERMANS,
HOWEVER, CONTINUES TO RECEIVE COVERAGE.

2. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND ON FEBRUARY 6, FOR EXAMPLE,
REPORTS (IN A STRAIGHT NEWS ARTICLE ON PAGE ONE)
THE STATEMENT IN BONN ATTRIBUTED TO UN SECRETARY
WALDHEIM THAT EACH OF THE GERMAN STATES IS REPRESENTED
INDEPENDENTLY IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THAT APPLIES
AS A MATTER OF COURSE TO CITIZENSHIP AS WELL.
(ES IST DAHER SELBSTVERSTAENDLICH, DASS JEDER
DIESER STAATEN IN SEINER ART UNABHAENGIG IN DEN
VEREINTEN NATIONEN VERTRETEN IST, AND DAS TRIFFT
SELBSTVERSTAENDLICH AUCH FUER DIE STAATSANGEHOERIGKEIT
ZU). WALDHEIM'S VISIT TO EAST BERLIN SCHEDULED
FOR FEBRUARY 7 WILL NO DOUBT ELICIT MORE ATTENTION
TO THIS PARTICULAR THEME.

3. IN ANOTHER EDITION OF NEUES DEUTSCHLAND,
FORMER GDR FOREIGN MINISTER OTTO WINZER STATES IN A
LEGALISTIC PIECE THAT THE FRG'S CLAIM TO
REPRESENT ALL GERMANS IS NOT MERELY A QUESTION OF
OTHER STATES BEING ALLOWED TO ESTABLISH NORMAL
RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE GDR. HE SAYS IT CONCERNS
THE SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF OTHER STATES, WHERE SOME OR
ALL OF THE INHABITANTS WERE DECLARED TO BE GERMAN

CITIZENS BY NAZI FIAT. IN THIS CONTEXT, WINZER
POINTS TO A DECISION OF THE WEST GERMAN CONSTITUTIONAL
COURT IN 1952 TO THE EFFECT THAT GERMAN CITIZENSHIP
WHICH WAS FORCED ON CERTAIN PERSONS AFTER JANUARY 1,
1938 UNDER THE THIRD REICH CANNOT BE CONSIDERED TO
HAVE BEEN A GENUINE ACCEPTANCE OF GERMAN NATIONALITY.
THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED, WINZER NOTES, ARE AUSTRIA,
LUXEMBOURG, AND AREAS LIKE ALSACE-LORRAINE. HE
SCORNFULLY REFERS TO SUCH A PROPOSITION AS
"REVANCHIST LEGALISM" BASED ON RECOGNITION OF A
"HITLER CRIME AGAINST INTERNATIONAL LAW."

4. IN ITS REPORT OF THE NEUES DEUTSCHLAND CRITICISM
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BERLIN 05204 062056Z

OF THE SCHMIDT ADDRESS ON FEBRUARY 3, THE
FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE NOTES THAT WORDS LIKE
"BARBED WIRE," "WALL" AND "DEATH STRIPS" ARE
REPEATED WHICH HAVE LONG BEEN "TABU". THE ALLGEMEINE
ALSO NOTES THE EAST GERMAN CORRESPONDENT'S CONCERN
WITH THE SPITEFULNESS WITH WHICH SCHMIDT DELIVERED
HIS WORDS ON THE GDR AND THE QUESTION RAISED OF
WHETHER THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO SET THE ATMOSPHERE

FOR THE FORTHCOMING FRG-GDR NEGOTIATIONS. FINALLY, THE ALLGEMEINE NOTES THE EAST GERMAN COMMENT THAT IN HIS ADDRESS SCHMIDT OVERLOOKED A BASIC FACT REGARDING NATIONALITY IN THAT THE WEST GERMAN GRUNDESETZ WILL BE MEASURED AGAINST INTERNATIONAL LAW AND NOT INTERNATIONAL LAW BY THE GRUNGESETZ.

5. COMMENT: CURRENT SIGNS IN THE EAST GERMAN PRESS POINT TO A CONTINUED STIFF LINE ON NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP IN GDR NEGOTIATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES OVER CONSULAR MATTERS. WINZER'S MENTION OF AUSTRIA IN THIS CONTEXT IS PROBABLY NOT FORTUITOUS. FROM CONVERSATIONS HERE, IT IS APPARENT THAT IN ITS CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GDR, THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT IS MUCH CONCERNED WITH "DUAL NATIONALS" RESIDING IN THE GDR WHO MAY HAVE A CLAIM TO AUSTRIAN AS WELL AS GERMAN NATIONALITY. TO THE EXTENT THAT GERMAN NATIONALITY WAS CONFERRED ON SUCH PERSONS UNDER THE THIRD REICH IT WOULD SEEM THAT AUSTRIA COULD RECEIVE EARLY RECOGNITION THAT SUCH PERSONS ARE AUSTRIAN CITIZENS (AND NOT CITIZENS OF THE GDR) IF WINZER'S WORDS ARE TO BE BELIEVED. IT DOES NOT SEEM HOWEVER THAT SUCH LOOPHOLES IN THE GDR DEFINITION OF NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP ARE OPEN TO MANY OTHER COUNTRIES.COOPER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMUNITY RELATIONS, NATIONALITY, CITIZENSHIP STATUS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BERLIN05204
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750044-0746
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750268/aaaacitu.tel
Line Count: 140
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <07 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EAST GERMAN REPORTS POINT TO CONTINUED HARD LINE ON GDR CITIZENSHIP
TAGS: PFOR, GE, GC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006